to ensure expeditious procurement of the approved requirements of the Armed Forces in terms of capabilities sought and timeframe prescribed.

DPP-2006 provides for review of the procurement procedure after every two years in the light of the practical experience gained in its implementation.

Capital Acquisitions are categorized as 'Buy', 'Buy and Make' and 'Make' Acquisitions covered under the 'Buy and Make' decision would mean purchase from a foreign vendor followed by licensed production/indigenous manufacture in the country. The licensed production covers Transfer of Technology (ToT), as required, from a foreign manufacturer to an identified Indian Production Agency.

Special law to curb crime by organized gangs and syndicates

*120. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering promulgation of any special law to curb criminal activities by organized criminal gangs and syndicates; and

(b) if not, how does Government plan to handle these activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) No such proposal is presently under consideration of the Central Government.

(b) such activities already covered under various existing criminal laws, *viz.*, the Indian Penal Code, The Arms Act, The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956, The Narcotic Drugs and Psychometric Substances Act, 1985, The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 as amended in 2004, The Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, etc. Efforts are consistently made to ensure the effective implementation of these and other laws to curb criminal activities by organized gangs and syndicates, etc.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Loss of jobs due to rising rupee

622. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minister had recently remarked that the rising rupee could lead to the loss of million jobs in labour intensive export sectors such as textiles, handicrafts, marine products and leather;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have assessed the positive impact of rising rupee on Indian trade particularly imports, etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In response to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 264 replied on 4th December, 2007, it was mentioned that in certain sectors like textiles, leather, marine products and handicrafts, there is a net decline in exports which has led to job losses. While the exact details are not available, it was estimated that unless remedial measures are taken, the total job losses could be as high as 2 million.

(c) and (d) While no specific study has been conducted to assess the positive impact of rising rupee, it is expected that importers will have gained on account of lower cost of import on account of rupee appreciation.

Land through negotiation with farmers for SEZs

623. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider the proposal that the promoters of Special Economic Zones should buy land through negotiation with farmers rather than expect it to be acquired by Government.

(b) whether Government will also consider determining the market value of the land as the minimum price;

(c) how many SEZ projects have been sanctioned by the Government in the last six months;

(d) the State-wise details thereof; and

(e) what criteria was adopted by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) All State Governments have been instructed that the Board of Approval will not approve any Special Economic Zones (SEZs) where the State Governments have carried out or purpose to carry out compulsory acquisition of land for such SEZs after 5th April, 2007.

(c) to (e) The Board of Approval (BoA) constituted under the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005 considers proposals for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) as per the provisions of the SEZ Act, 2005 and SEZ Rules, 2006 and the objectives enshrined therein as well as applicable administrative guidelines as laid down for this purpose. Only those proposals which are duly recommended by the State Government concerned are considered by the Board of Approval. State-wise numbers of SEZs formally approved during last 6 months are as under: